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## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

## <u>SAPD, SAFD, and Office of Emergency Management to</u> <u>receive new Multi-Function Helicopter</u>

WHO: San Antonio Police Department

San Antonio Fire Department
Office of Emergency Management

WHAT: Introduction of Multi-Function Helicopter

WHEN: Wednesday, March 7, 2007

Approximately 4:00-4:15 pm

(During Ground-Breaking Ceremony of new parking garage)

WHERE: San Antonio International Airport

9800 Airport Blvd

(South of existing long-term garage)

The San Antonio Police Department, along with the Office of Emergency Management and the San Antonio Fire Department, announces the arrival of the new American Euro-Copter AS350 B3 Helicopter. Funding for the aircraft was provided through the 2005 Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) Grant at a cost of \$3.2 million and is the first mid-size, multi-function aircraft for the City and region. The new helicopter will provide the SAPD/SAFD with greater capabilities to perform the following functions:

- One pilot, one observer, and up to 4 passengers involved in various multiperson missions. For example: aerial assessments of large critical incidents, unusual occurrences, terrorist crime scenes and multiple person transports.
- This multi-function helicopter is much faster than the current fleet of SAPD aircraft, which will significantly reduce response time to all areas of the region.